

From: Keats, Kimberley F <Kimberley.Keats@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 1:22 PM
To: Hicks, Darren
Cc: Murphy, Ian; Pilgrim, Bret
Subject: RE: BP Canada Energy Group ULC – Ephesus Prospect Controlled Source Electromagnetic (CSEM) Survey 2020-2024

Hi Darren,

We've reviewed the BP Canada Ephesus Prospect CSEM Survey EA Addendum and have one follow up comment for your review and consideration.

With respect to the following comment on Table 4.9, the Proponent has removed the reference to the proposed recovery strategy but has kept the associated text. The reference noted, ALTRT 2006, is the most recent version of the recovery strategy and doesn't identify critical habitat. It is noted in the recovery strategy that, "while the state of knowledge on habitat requirements of leatherback turtles in Canadian waters is increasing as new scientific evidence becomes available, it is currently not possible to identify critical habitat for this species." The reference that should be removed, along with the associated text, is DFO 2016c, which was an early draft of a revised recovery strategy that was shared with stakeholders. It included proposed critical habitat; however, it wasn't finalized and shouldn't be referenced. I've highlighted the section in the Revised Text and the reference that should be removed.

DFO Comment

Section 4.5 Species at Risk, Table 4.9, pages 40-43 -The Recovery Strategy and associated critical habitat for Leatherback Sea Turtles is not publicly available and should not be discussed.

Original Text in Table

Although critical habitat has not yet been designated for this species in Atlantic Canadian waters (ALTRT 2006), areas previously identified as important foraging habitat have now been identified in the proposed recovery strategy as critical habitat areas for leatherbacks (DFO 2016c). Three proposed critical habitat areas have been identified: (1) the Southwestern Scotian Slope Area, (2) the Gulf of St. Lawrence-Laurentian Channel Area, and (3) the Placentia Bay Area (DFO 2016c).

Revised Text

Although critical habitat has not yet been designated for this species in Atlantic Canadian waters (ALTRT 2006), areas previously identified as important foraging habitat have now been identified as three proposed critical habitat areas: (1) the Southwestern Scotian Slope Area, (2) the Gulf of St. Lawrence-Laurentian Channel Area, and (3) the Placentia Bay Area (DFO 2016c).

ALTRT (Atlantic Leatherback Turtle Recovery Team). 2006. Recovery Strategy for Leatherback Turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*) in Atlantic Canada. Species at Risk Act Recovery Strategy Series. Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Ottawa, NL. vi + 45 pp.

DFO (Fisheries and Oceans Canada). 2016c. Recovery Strategy for the Leatherback Sea Turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*) in Atlantic Canada [Proposed]. Species at Risk Act Recovery Strategy Series. Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Ottawa, ON. vii + 43 pp.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Best,
Kim

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From: Hicks, Darren <DHicks@cnlopb.ca>
Sent: Friday, September 25, 2020 1:19 PM
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Cc: Murphy, Ian <IMurphy@cnlopb.ca>
Subject: RE: BP Canada Energy Group ULC – Ephesus Prospect Controlled Source Electromagnetic (CSEM) Survey 2020-2024

Good afternoon: please see the attached EA Addendum for this project. Please review the attached addendum to determine if the responses provided by Nexen respecting your comments have been addressed satisfactorily. Your response should be forwarded no later than October 9, 2020. If no comments are received, the C-NLOPB will assume no comments will be submitted.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact us.

Regards
Darren

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